

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROYAL ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF LONDON

SERIES C. JOURNAL OF MEETINGS

VOLUME 11.

No. 9, 1946.

GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER, 1946, at 5.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of the Proceedings of the General Meeting held on 16th October, 1946.
2. Recommendations of candidates for Fellowship.
3. Announcement of election of new Fellows.
4. Additions to the Library.

Presented.

The larvae collector's guide and calendar, giving the times of the appearance of the British Macrolepidoptera in their various stages. Published by J. and W. Davis. 8vo. Dartford [circa 1890]. [The Rev. E. G. Bucknill.]

Raymundo da Silva, B.: *Relatório geral. Contribuição para a história natural dos Lepidópteros do Brasil.* 4to. Rio de Janeiro, 1907. [Mr. R. L. E. Ford.]

Schenckel, J.: *Der Schmetterlingssammler. Systematische Beschreibung aller Deutschen Schmetterlinge.* 8vo. Mainz [1849]. [Mr. R. L. E. Ford.]

Hodgson, N. Barrie: *Insects of the British Isles.* 8vo. London, 1946.

Purchased.

Haskins, C. P.: *Of ants and men.* 8vo. London, 1945.

In addition, separates have been presented by Dr. N. Bolwig, Capt. T. Dannreuther, R.N., Dr. John Smart, Prof. P. A. Buxton, F.R.S., Dr. A. D. Imms, F.R.S., Sir Guy A. K. Marshall, F.R.S., Mr. H. E. Box, Dr. J. T. Salmon, Mr. F. Burke, Brig. E. A. Glennie, Mr. A. W. McKenny-Hughes, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the Department of Agriculture, Canada, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the United States National Museum.

5. Admission of Fellows.
6. Papers accepted for publication in the *Transactions*.
7. Communications.

(1) **Mr. G. Fox-Wilson.**

A Rose Chalcid seed-fly belonging to the genus *Megastigmus* Dalman occurring in the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley, Surrey.

(2) **Mr. G. Talbot (on behalf of Mr. R. A. Davis).**

Notes on urticating Lepidopterous larvae of some local medical importance.

(3) **Dr. S. Pradhan.**

Biograph and Biometer.

[Abstract.]

A simple device will be exhibited for adapting ordinary thermographs to what may be called biographs and biometers. These instruments are meant for estimating developmental periods and numbers of generations of insects under any range of temperature fluctuation in nature, provided the development of the insect in question is not affected much in nature by changes in humidity.

(4) **Mr. J. Balfour-Browne.**

A False-chelate leg in an Aquatic Beetle larva.

[Abstract.]

The false-chelate structure of the two anterior pairs of legs in the larva of *Matus bicarinatus* Say (Coleoptera : DYTISCIDAE) will be described and a comparison made with some other forms of chelate or raptorial legs in the Insecta. It is suggested that the form seen in *Matus* does not serve a raptorial function but that it may represent a peculiar adaptation of a swimming leg to serve also for fossorial purposes. A comparison will be made with a true fossorial leg in an aquatic coleopterous larva to illustrate the differences in adaptive development.

(5) Communications and exhibits the titles of which have been received since the circulation of these agenda.

Fellows are particularly requested to bring suitable exhibits to the General Meetings even though it may not be possible to announce their intention to do so before the meeting.

If circumstances permit tea will be served in the Library before the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 16TH OCTOBER, 1946.

Professor G. D. Hale CARPENTER, M.B.E., D.M., President, in the Chair.

Present, 49 Fellows and 12 Visitors.

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October, 1946, were confirmed, and signed by the President.

The names of the following candidates for election were read :—For the first time : E. Barnett, K. S. Dickinson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Ph.C., M. Niblett, and T. Spence, M.R.C.V.S.

For the second time : H. Ashforth, M. L. Braddell, W. J. S. Bythell, O.B.E., M.D., B.A., Père A. de Cooman, A. E. Curtis, R. M. Dobson, A. J. Duarte, J. Ford, Capt. I. R. H. Allan, G. S. Harrison, R. G. Webster Kay, Mrs. M. J. Morgan, B.Sc., F. A. Perkins, G. Dick Read, M.A., M.D., P. J. Rennie, A.R.C.S., and R. C. Sharma.

The Secretary announced that the following had been elected Fellows of the Society :— N. A. Janjua, M.Sc., Locust Entomologist, Baluchistan, Quetta, India; Miss Vere Temple, King's Chase, Tollard Royal, Salisbury; F. H. Latham, 26, Hollie Lucas Road, King's Heath, Birmingham 14; J. J. Steyn, P.O. Box 73, Zastron, O.F.S., South Africa; J. F. Graham, M.Sc., M.B.O.U., Seahouses, Northumberland; J. N. Thornton, 123, Otley Old Road, Leeds 6.

Thanks were voted to donors of gifts to the Library since the last meeting.

Mr. H. M. Collier, Mr. F. C. Reeve and Mr. A. Roebuck signed the Obligation Book and were admitted as Fellows.

Communications were made by Professor P. A. Buxton, F.R.S., and Dr. Hugh B. Cott, abstracts of which appeared on pp. 27–28.

After Professor Buxton had spoken, Dr. B. M. Hobby said that in many species of EMPIDIDAE prey caught by the male was displayed in courtship and transferred to the female at the moment of mating. In 1931 (*Proc. ent. Soc. Lond.* 6 : 67–8) he had studied this habit in *Empis opaca* Fabricius. On three different days a gentle breeze was blowing across a meadow, stirring up the vegetation and carrying the pappus-bearing fruits of composite flowers. Although no actual capture was witnessed, these drifting fruits were evidently seized by the males in place of the usual insect prey. In all, 15 pairs and 2 males were taken with dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* Vill.) fruits and 4 pairs with small balls of broken pappus containing entangled groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris* L.) fruits. It was evident that the fruit-carrying males were as successful in finding mates as were those with insect prey. *Empis livida* L. had been recorded on a number of occasions with moths as prey, notably *Tortrix viridana* L., and there was little reason to doubt that in the case of Prof. Buxton's observation a drifting feather had evoked the same kind of response that the male would have made to a moth. Dr. Hobby also exhibited preserved specimens of EMPIDIDAE and their captures, and lantern slides of a pair of *Empis tessellata* Fabricius with prey and of the more elaborate habits of species of the genus *Hilara*.

In the discussion which followed Dr. Cott's talk, Prof. Buxton, Dr. Uvarov, Dr. Ilse and Mr. R. L. E. Ford took part. Prof. Buxton thought the relative conspicuousness of many of the birds referred to was a matter of opinion and closely related to their environment. Dr. Uvarov queried the assessment of "vulnerability" and Dr. Cott, in replying to Dr. Ilse, said that in most cases the enemies were birds of prey. Mr. Ford thought the fact that many of the birds were fish-eating species might well be an important factor in their palatability. Dr. Cott, while agreeing that food does affect the flavour of the flesh, said that birds have none the less developed distastefulness irrespective of the food eaten.

The President, in thanking Dr. Cott for his talk, said that there was still great scope for further research in this field.

N. D. RILEY, *Hon. Secretary.*

ADMISSION OF FELLOWS.

Any Fellow who has not been formally admitted to the Society under Chapter XIV, Section 4 of the Bye-Laws and attends the meeting on 6th November, 1946, is requested to inform the Society before 5.15 p.m. on that date.

NOTICES

In addition to the *Transactions* and *Proceedings* (Series A, B, and C), the following publications are available on application at the Society's rooms :—

THE GENERIC NAMES OF BRITISH INSECTS, prepared by the Committee on Generic Nomenclature of the Royal Entomological Society of London, with the assistance of the Department of Entomology of the British Museum (Natural History) :

- | | | |
|---------|--|----------------|
| Part 1. | Recommendations relating to the publication of the committee's reports | price 6d. |
| Part 2. | The generic names of the British Rhopalocera with a check list of the species | price 3s. 6d. |
| Part 3. | The generic names of the British Odonata with a check list of the species | price 3s. 6d. |
| Part 4. | The generic names of the British Neuroptera, with a check list of the British species | price 3s. 6d. |
| Part 5. | The generic names of the British Hymenoptera Aculeata, with a check list of the British species | price 15s. 0d. |
| Part 6. | The generic names of the British CARABIDAE, with a check list of the British species | price 10s. 0d. |
| Part 7. | The generic names of the British Hydradephaga, with a check list of the British species | price 5s. 0d. |
| Part 8. | The generic names of the British Hemiptera-Heteroptera, with a check list of the British species | price 39s. 0d. |

STYLOPS, a Journal of Taxonomic Entomology.

1932-1935. Vols. 1-4 (all issued). Price £1 16s. 0d. each; to Fellows, £1 7s. 0d.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. 1935. Nos. 1-6 (all issued). 3s. 0d.

HÜBNER : A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AND SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL WORKS OF JACOB HÜBNER AND THE SUPPLEMENTS THERETO. In 2 vols. By Francis Hemming.

Price	Vol. 1.	605 pp.	£1 15s. 0d.
	„	Vol. 2.	275 pp. 15s. 0d.

The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20th November, 1946, at 5.30 p.m.

Published by THE ROYAL ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON and sold at its Rooms, 41, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, price 6d.